

Message Text

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15

ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 EB-07 OES-03 COME-00 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 OMB-01 /076 W

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R 070852Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8536

INFO AMEMBASSY SAIGON

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 3036

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PDIP, WMO, SZ, VS, VN

SUBJECT: PROPOSED PRG OBSERVER STATUS AT 7TH WMO

REF: A. STATE 10509; B. TOKYO 0997; C. STATE 041918

SUMMARY: GOJ HAS CONTINUED TO DELAY DECISION ON OBSERVER STATUS FOR PRG AT WMO. WE HAVE PRESENTED US CASE AGAIN AND WILL KEEP IN CLOSE TOUCH WITH FONOFF TO DETERMINE RESULTS. END SUMMARY.

1. FOLLOWING INDICATIONS FROM GVN EMBASSY THAT GOJ WAS VACILLATING ON ATTITUDE TOWARD PRG OBSERVER STATUS AT 7TH WMO, WE AGAIN DISCUSSED ISSUE WITH FONOFF FIRST SE ASIA DIRECTOR HANABUSA MARCH 4. HE EXPLAINED ONCE MORE THAT GOJ POSITION WAS NOT YET DECIDED BUT REITERATED REMARKS SIMILAR TO THOSE REPORTED REF B TO EFFECT THAT HE WAS NOT SURE PRG SHOULD NOT BE SEATED AS AN OBSERVER AND THAT FURTHER CONSIDERATION SHOULD BE GIVEN TO WHOLE QUESTION OF PRG'S INTERNATIONAL STATUS. HE POSTULATED THAT GVN'S POSITION MIGHT BE MORE SECURE IN LONG RUN IF ITS STATUS AS "PARTICIPANT" AT SUCH INTERNATIONAL MEETINGS WERE CONFIRMED AND AT SAME TIME AN INFERIOR STATUS FOR PRG WERE ESTABLISHED

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AS MERELY AN "OBSERVER". INCONGRUOUSLY, HE THEN COMMENTED

THAT SWEDEN'S AND INDONESIA'S POLICY OF REFRAINING FROM GRANTING FULL (DIPLOMATIC) RECOGNITION TO EITHER SIDE ALSO HAS ATTRACTIONS. EMBOFF PROTESTED AS USUAL, INSISTING THAT IT WOULD BE PREFERABLE TO WAIT SEVERAL YEARS BEFORE CONSIDERING HIS PROPOSAL AS A FALL-BACK POSITIN. USG REMAINS ADAMANTLY OPPOSED TO ANY RECOGNITION OF PRG. HANABUSA PROMISED AGAIN TO TAKE USG VIEWS INTO CONSIDERATION IN DECIDING ISSUE.

2. COMMENT: CRITICAL SITUATION IN KHMER, US CONGRESSIONAL ATTITUDES TOWARD AID TO KHMER AND SVN, AND FONOFF'S DESIRE TO ACCOMMODATE THIRD WORLD POSITIONS WHERE FEASIBLE ARE WEAKENING GOJ'S STEADFASTNESS ON PRG ISSUE. GVN EMBOFF CALLED ON HANABUSA MARCH 5 TO MAKE A FURTHER PLEA. HANABUSA WAS MORE POSITIVE, LEADING US TO WONDER WHETHER FONOFF WAFFLING ON PRG STATUS AT WMO MIGHT BE RELATED TO IMMINENT CONCLUSION OF NEGOTIATIONS WITH DRV ON OPENING EMBASSIES IN HANOI AND TOKYO. SINCE NEGOTIATIONS NOW COMPLETED WITH HANOI, THIS THEORY CAN SOON BE VERIFIED. WE ARE MONITORING FONOFF CLOSELY ON THIS AND SHOULD THEY APPEAR HEADING FOR SUPPORT FOR PRG OBSERVER STATUS WE WILL MAKE FURTHER DEMARCHE.
HODGSON

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